Message Text

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42.

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NIC-01 ACDA-19 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14

NEA-14 DRC-01 /153 W

----- 117384

R 191535Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4998

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

UNCLAS ATHENS 5840

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, UR, GR

SUBJECT: GOG DENIES MILITARY AGREEMENT WITH USSR PLANNED

- 1. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS SOURCES DENIED AUGUST 17
 REPORTS THAT NEGOTIATIONS UNDER WAY IN MOSCOW FOR ESTABLISHMENT
 OF MILITARY AGREEMENT BETWEEN GREECE AND USSR. THE MFA SOURCES
 STATED THAT REPORTS OF SUCH AN AGREEMENT "DO NOT CORRESPOND
 TO REALITY."
- 2. DENIAL PROMPTED BY APPEARANCE EARLIER IN DAY AUGUST 17
 OF PROMINENT FRONTPAGE STORE IN ATHINAIKI WHICH CARRIED
 BANNER HEADLINES "MILITARY AGREEMENT BETWEEN ATHENS AND
 MOSCOW". NEWSPAPER ACCOUNT CITED BBC SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
 STANLEY MAYS AS SOURCE FOR REPORT. WHILE BA-BONED STORY MERELY ALLEGE

IN GENERAL TERMS THAT NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE FORMULATION OF A GREEK-SOVIET DEFENSE AGREEMENT WERE UNDERWAY, IT ALSO QUOTED A HIGH-RANKING OFFICIAL OF THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN ATHENS STATING THAT INQUIRIES ON THE MATTER SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE GREEK EMBASSY IN MOSCOW SINCE "IN ADDITION TO OUR INTENTIONS, THE GREEK UNCLASSIFIED

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EMBASSY HAS MUCH OTHER ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AS WELL."

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